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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone

DATE: 25X1X

SUBJECT SED Tactics in Press and Radio

INFO. [REDACTED]

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DIST. 21 March 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN
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1. According to a reliable source, the SED newspaper Neues Deutschland has received instructions to offer its services as a sounding board for dissatisfied Social Democrats in the western zones. Numerous letters have been written along the following lines:

"In the question of _____, we are filled with the same great concern as you. We should be very happy if you would give us your opinion on this subject."

In this connection, Neues Deutschland is to attempt to wipe out its reputation as a purely communistic paper and to get contributions from as many non-SED men as possible. It is reported that the staff of the Neues Deutschland expects that paper to be licensed in western Germany soon, and instructions have been issued to acquire new correspondents in all important places in the western zones.

2. The same source reports that the Neues Deutschland lost 35,000 subscribers in Berlin alone during the last quarter of 1946. The reason, as shown by subscribers' letters, was not dissatisfaction with the content of the paper but rather with the constant delay in delivery.
3. The following names of staff members of Neues Deutschland are reported by source:

Lintz - External Affairs
Scholtz - Domestic Politics
Spangenberg - SED "Pol-leiter"

Spangenberg is, possibly, Pritt's successor as chief SED spy on the staff of the paper.

4. It is reported that both the Sonntag, the paper of the Kulturbund which is edited by Dr. Brandt, and the Weltbuehne, edited by Leonhardt, are closely supervised by Alexander Abusch. Dr. Brandt is reported to be anxious to resign. Abusch, who was formerly

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EXEC.		FBI		SPDT				
CONTROL		FBM		SPDB				
PLANS	X	FEP		SPDN				

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editor-in-chief of the Rote Fahne, was trained in Moscow and is now the "Rosenberg" of the SED. He is in charge of all SED papers and has his office in the Sonntag Building.

5. Another source reports that Radio Berlin may be expected to abandon its obvious SED line and to adopt a new course of political objectivity. In this connection, Intendant Seidewitz and Assistant Intendant Girnus are soon to be relieved of their posts. The censorship officer of Radio Berlin, Andreyev, has offices at the studios. His rejections are based on content alone, never on matters of style. The chief editor is Duchrov, 35 years old, who spent five years in Dachau for high treason.

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